Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 /014 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:ECHULEN:PAW APPROVED BY EA/PHL:BAFLECK D/HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN

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P R 212001Z APR 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY INFO CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SREF, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. WASHINGTON NATIONAL RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS HAS CALLED AND RELAYED FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM THEIR SUBIC REPRESENTATIVE:

QUOTE NAVAL AUTHORITIES THIS STATION ADVISE OF STRONG POSSIBILITY 65 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WHO LANDED AT PUERTO PRINCESA, PHILIPPINES, WILL BE DENIED ENTRY TO REPUBLIC PHILIPPINES. EXPECT PHILIPPINE NAVY TO ESCORT THEIR SHIP TO SUBIC BAY. NAVAL AUTHORITIES' INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT TO ALLOW REFUGEES TO LAND. FULLY EXPECT REFUGEES TO HAVE TO REMAIN ON SHIP IN HARBOR WHILE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT DETERMINE DISPOSITION. NAVAL AUTHORITIES ADVISE THEY HAVE NO AUTHORIZATION OR FUNDS TO PROVIDE REFUGEES WITH BASIC NECESSITIES. REQUESTING ARC MEET BASIC NEEDS UNTIL AUTHORIZATION RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON FOR EXPENDITURES. NAVAL AUTHORITIES UNABLE MAKE REQUEST UNTIL REFUGEES ARRIVE AND DELAY EXPECTED IN RESPONSE. SHOULD REFUGEES ARRIVE AND OFFICIAL REQUEST MADE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMERICAN RED CROSS CAN THIS OFFICE HAVE AUTHORIZATION TO

PROVIDE REFUGEES WITH BASIC NEEDS UNTIL NAVAL AUTHORITY FUNDING RECEIVED? END QUOTE.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON WHETHER THERE STILL SEEMS ANY LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH A SCENARIO DEVELOPING. WASHINGTON NATIONAL RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS HAS AGREED TO SEND REASSURINGLY NON-COMMITTAL REPLY TO SUBIC RED CROSS, BUT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF EMBASSY COULD ALSO CHECK WITH SUBIC TO MAKE SURE WE ARE ALL SPEAKING IN ONE VOICE.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, REFUGEE RELIEF, TRAVEL CONTROLS

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TAGS: SREF, VS, RP, US, RED CROSS

To: MANILA

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